(a) whether Government are convening the meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee for clearance of Irrigation schemes/projects for the year 2007-08;

(b) if so, what are the details of the schemes/projects in Andhra Pradesh that would be given clearance in the ensuring meeting and by when these are expected to come into operation; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER OF RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The clearance to project by the Technical Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources is a continuous process based on project proposal materialized for consideration of TAC. 87th meeting of the TAC was held on 17th November 2006 which accepted Nilwai (Medium) Irrigation project of Andhra Pradesh. Subsequent meeting of the TAC was held on 2nd March 2007 in which 4 projects of Andhra Pradesh namely, Godavari Lift Irrigation Scheme (LIS), Gutpha LIS, Alisagar LIS, and Mussurimilli projects were accepted.

Irrigation is a State subject and planning, execution, funding as well as priority of execution of project is within purview of State Governments.

Construction of Rajiv Sagar Project in Madhya Pradesh

†1633. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rajiv Sagar Project, which is under construction in Madhya Pradesh, is an inter-state project of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra;

(b) whether the project is being delayed as a result to delay in forest related clearance, delay in land acquisition and non provision of its contribution share by the State Government of Maharahstra to Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) the action being taken by Government to complete the project at the earliest under Acceleated Irrigation Benefit Programme?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes Sir, Rajiv Sagar (Bawanthadi) major project is an inter-state project between Madhya Prasesh and Maharashtra.

(b) Additional forest land of 59.969 ha. is to be acquired in Madhya Pradesh and 349.069 ha. of forest land is to be acquired in Maharashtra totalling to 409.038 ha. Revised proposal for acquisition of forest land in Madhya Pradesh is submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forest, Government of India (MOEF, GOI) on 18.10.2006. Similarly, revised proposal for acquisition of additional forest land in Maharashtra is submitted to the MOEF,GOI on 11.08.2006. Officers of MOEF,GOI have inspected the sites and submitted report to the Government of India for approval for diversion of forest land for project purpose. 8 villages fully and 2 villages partially in Maharahstra are affected due to submergence from Bawanthadi Reservoir involving 942.46 ha. of private land. Resettlement and rehabilitation work in Maharashtra is being done by the State Government of Maharashtra and work is targeted for completion by June 2007 by the Government of Maharashtra. In Madhya Pradesh, no population is affected. Only 82.58 ha. of private land is affected which has already been acquired.

Maharashtra Government is paying its share cost of the project whenever due and at present, there is no deadlock on this account.

(c) Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra portion of the project were brought under AIBP during 2003-04 and 2004-05 respectively. The total Central Assistance provided to these States in that order is Rs. 48.67 crore and Rs. 44.069 crore.

Pench project of Chindwara, Madhya Pradesh

†1634. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that action is being taken for getting assistance from externally financed 'Indo-German Bilateral Development Corporation' for Pench project of Chindwara in Madhya Pradesh;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.